

21. The hydrogel of claim 1, having an in vivo degradation time of less than one year.

22. The hydrogel of claim 1, having at least one characteristic selected from the group consisting of (a) a subunit size when fully hydrated in the range from 0.01 mm to 5 mm, (b) an equilibrium swell from 400% to 5000%, and (c) an in vivo degradation time of less than one year.

23. The hydrogel of claim 22, having at least two of the three characteristics.

24. The hydrogel of claim 22, having all three characteristics.

25. The hydrogel of claim 22, said hydrogel being at least partially hydrated with an aqueous medium comprising an active agent.

26. The hydrogel of claim 25, wherein the active agent is a clotting agent.

27. The hydrogel of claim 26, wherein the clotting agent is thrombin.

28. The hydrogel of claim 27, wherein the hydrogel comprises a protein.

29. The hydrogel of claim 28, wherein the protein comprises gelatin.

30. The hydrogel of claim 27, wherein the hydrogel comprises a polysaccharide.

31. The hydrogel of claim 27, wherein the hydrogel comprises a non-biological polymer.

32. The hydrogel of claim 27, wherein the hydrogel comprises two of the following components a) a protein, b) a polysaccharide, and c) a non-biological polymer.

33. The hydrogel of claim 27, wherein the hydrogel comprises a) a protein, b) a polysaccharide and c) a non-biological polymer.

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